PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Yuji FURUUCHI et al.

Application No.: New U.S. Patent Application

Filed: June 10, 2005 Docket No.: 124221

For: PROTECTIVE ELEMENT

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.
- 2. Relevance of the non-English language references 18-20 is discussed in the present specification.
- 3. The references 1-17 were cited in the International Search Report. An English language version of the International Search Report is attached for the Examiner's information.
- 4. In accordance with 37 CFR §1.98(a)(2)(ii), copies of any U.S. patents and patent application publications are not attached.
- English language Abstracts of the non-English language references 6-7, 9, 11 and 17-21 are attached hereto.
- 6. A computer-generated English language translation of the Japanese Patent Publications 17-21 has been obtained from the website of the Japanese Patent Office ([http://www.jpo.go.jp]), and is attached, but has not been reviewed for accuracy.

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7. Reference 1 corresponds to reference 6. Reference 2 corresponds to references 7 and 8. Reference 3 corresponds to references 9 and 10. Reference 4 corresponds to references 12 and 13. Reference 5 corresponds to references 14 and 15.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: June 10, 2005

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Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461

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Sheet <u>1</u> of <u>1</u>

| Form PTO-1449 (REV. 8-83) | | | | ATTY DOCKET NO. 124221 | | APPLICATION NO. New U.S. Patent Application | | |
|---|--|------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|-----------------|---|-------|--------------|
| INFO | RMATI | ON DISCLOSURE STATEMENT | | | 10 | 15 | 387 | 54 |
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| Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. | | | | | | | | |

Date: June 10, 2005